

Preliminary Amendment

National Stage Entry of PCT/EP2004/000346
Attorney Docket No.: Q88617

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A dose indicator (A) for a fluid dispenser device (B), said indicator being characterized in that it comprises a rotary counting wheel (10) that is displaceable in rotation, and a slide member (20) that is displaceable in translation, said counting wheel including indicator means (15), indicating the number of doses dispensed or the number of doses still to be dispensed, and cooperating with a display opening (25) provided in said slide member (20), said rotary counting wheel (10) including a hollow profile (18) co-operating with a projection (28) of said slide member (20), the shape of said hollow profile (18) being such that at least some rotations of said rotary counting wheel (10) cause said slide member (20) to be displaced in translation, thereby modifying the position of said slide member (20) relative to said counting wheel (10), and in that the indicator further comprises actuator means comprising two flexible elements (32, 33) of different flexibilities, the more flexible element (32) enabling said rotary counting wheel (10) to be rotated at the start of the actuation stroke of the dispenser device (B), and the less flexible element (33) enabling said actuation stroke to be continued after said counting wheel (10) has been rotated.

2. (original): An indicator according to claim 1, in which said indicator means (15) follow said hollow profile (18) at least in part.

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3. (currently amended): An indicator according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, in which the shape of said hollow profile (18) is irregular so that dose indication is progressive.

4. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, in which said hollow profile (18) is spiral-shaped at least in part.

5. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, in which said rotary counting wheel (10) and said slide member (20) are disposed in a cover (40) including a display window (45) co-operating with the display opening (25) of the slide member (20).

6. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, in which said rotary counting wheel (10) is a thin disk including a set of teeth (19), said set of teeth (19) cooperating with actuator means which are designed to cause said rotary disk (10) to turn.

7. (original): An indicator according to claim 6, in which said actuator means include a drive element (31) secured to a ring (30) surrounding said set of teeth (19), said drive element (31) coming to co-operate with said set of teeth (19) each time a dose is dispensed.

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8. (original): An indicator according to claim 7, in which said ring (30) includes anti-return means (36, 37) preventing said rotary disk (10) from turning in the direction opposite to the direction in which it is turned by said drive element (31).

9. (currently amended): An indicator according to claim 7 ~~or claim 8~~, in which said actuator means include at least one flexible tab (31).

10. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~claim 7, in which said actuator means include a transmission element (34) which is designed to co-operate with said fluid dispenser device (B) each time said device is actuated, said transmission element (34) also cooperating with said drive element (31) so as to cause said rotary disk (10) to turn.

11. (original): An indicator according to claim 10, in which said transmission element (34) is a shoulder secured to said drive element (31), and co-operating with a portion (54) of the fluid dispenser device (B) which moves during actuation.

12. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any one of claims 5 to 11~~claim 5, in which the rotary counting wheel (10), the slide member (20), the actuator means (31, 34, 35), and the cover (40) form a unit which can be assembled in a fluid dispenser device (B).

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13. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, in which the actuator means include a flexible tab (31) comprising a first flexible-tab portion (32) and a second flexible-tab portion (33) that is more rigid than the first tab portion (32), the first tab portion (32) supporting an actuator pin (35) which is designed to cooperate with the set of teeth (19) of said rotary counting wheel (10) each time the device is actuated.

14. (original): An indicator according to claim 13, in which said ring (30) includes an abutment (39) which is designed to co-operate with a blocking element (38) secured to said flexible tab (31) so as to limit the rotation of said rotary counting wheel (10).

15. (original): An indicator according to claim 14, in which the more rigid, second tab portion (33) is designed to flex as soon as the blocking element (38) is blocked by the abutment means (39) of the ring (30).

16. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 15~~claim 13, in which the rotary counting wheel (10) is rotated by the first part of the actuation stroke of the fluid dispenser device (B), the flexion of the more rigid, second tab portion enabling said actuation stroke of the fluid dispenser device (B) to be continued, despite the blocking element (38) being blocked by the abutment means (39).

17. (currently amended): An indicator according to ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1, in which said indicator means (15) are numbers and/or symbols and/or colors.

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18. (currently amended): A fluid dispenser device (B), comprising a fluid reservoir (51) and a dispenser member (52), such as a pump or a valve, mounted on said reservoir (51), said device being characterized in that it further comprises a dose indicator (A) according to any preceding claim~~claim 1~~.

19. (original): A device according to claim 18, in which the dose indicator (A) is actuated by a portion (54) of the reservoir (51) which is displaced while the device (B) is being actuated, and which co-operates with a transmission element (34) of said indicator (A).